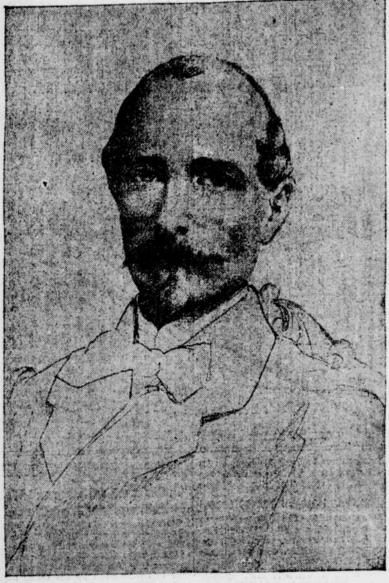
# LITERARY NEWS CRITICISM

## Some Curious Gossip About Na-

INTIMATE MEMOIRS OF NAPOLEON
III. Personal Reminiscences of the
Man and the Emperor. By the late
Baron d'Ambès. Edited and translated
by A. R. Allinson, M. A. With illustrations from the collection of A. M.
Broadley. In two volumes. 8vo, pp. 401,
425. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
This is a queer, scrappy book, the
This is a queer, scrappy book, the
which would be more appara little less oblittle less obl ent if its origin were a little less ob-scure. The translator assures us that it "supplies an enormous mass of first-hand material for a survey and study modern society, we consider, Molé and I.

erected things, may wait. It is better to take for what it is worth, out of the chapter leading up to the prince's election as president of the republic, an Glimpses of London's Inferno



NAPOLEON III. (From the pertrait by Viger in "Intimate Memoirs of Napoleon III.)

of the life and character of one of the most en'gmatic figures in modern hismost en'gmatic figures in modern histhe French editors of the manuscript saying: "For our present purpose we to take him very seriously as a com- tion and respect as well as affection, mentator on historical events. Taking for his master, and it is odd, therefore,

Whether he gathered his material at nity. "first hand" or not, whether he watched | Carrying his story down to 1870, he men who determined them with his the war, but nothing of any conseown eyes or studied them in books and quence. On events, as on personages, newspapers, he puts together a plausi- he is entertaining rather than weighty. ble narrative and enlivens it with a One story of the terrible year we may plentiful supply of anecdotes. Take, repeat. "I was present this morning," for example, the sayings of Napoleon he says, "at a scene never to be for-III, not infrequently cited here. They gotten. I was on the knife-board of an are, after all, sufficiently "in charac- omnibus. Everybody was speaking at ter." "You see, in life each man knows once. There was only one subject of victory in his turn. . . . We are conversation. A gentleman said: 'The playing a game for high stakes, the war! Supposing it was to end in a de-Bourbons and L . . . For a moment feat for France?' There was but one they have a good lead. . . . But I shout: they seized the man and threw am making points, too, and little by him from the top of the moving omnilittle catching them up." This was in bus on to the pavement. I can quite 1835. Three years later the baron believe it killed him." With this we claims to have heard this colloquy be- may take leave of the baron's "actutween Louis Napoleon and Amédée alities." But if we cannot commend write the life of Napoleon I:

"My uncle was Cæsar," said the with a smile. "I will be Augustus."

life, and as Louis Napoleon has long Revolution: been familiar in that role we find the foregoing passage, and others like it, convincing enough. The baron is none the less readable, either, for the subtly romantic touch with which he hits off some of his vignettes, and, in fact, we are almost, if not quite, disposed to accept his aid in the study of the "enig-"

Come in," said he in surprise and some anxiety. cept his aid in the study of the "enig-matic" figure of Mr. Allinson's preface.

But somehow confidence relaxes, and trembled.

"You are Isabey, the painter?" asked tions of character, and of other high

tory." But when we come to examine into the authority of this work we find into a great laugh In one way, whether intentional or not, this staccato narrative conveys an interesting and lifelike impression of comforted by the assurance that they designate the author of these pages not, this staccato narrative conveys an is, indeed, sufficiently obvious, the person who put this memorial in our tone the prevailing note of the career hands having asked us to observe this of Louis Napoleon, which was a held in the much reticence for reasons which it strange, disordered, specious affair. does not behave us to gainsay." For Some observers said at the time, and the authors of this bland declaration most readers have come to feel since, it may be that the pseudonimity of the that its sorry conclusion was prefigbaron "in no wise diminishes the ab- ured all along upon the surface of sorbing interest of these confidential things. Such a career was too feverish papers," but it certainly puts the dis- to be stable. The baron makes great interested reader in a skeptical mood- play around "the prisoner of Ham" which is only confirmed by the general and is modestly thrilling over the escharacter of the book itself. The lat- cape. It is no fault of his if, forthter opens with a chapter of some with, he has to chronicle his prince's twenty pages on the paternity of Louis levity in London. The future Emperor Napoleon, and this clearly stamps the "divides his time between study and writer as far more the scandalmonger the turf," and, incidentally, his father than the historian. We get another having conveniently left him a fortune,

and even more conclusive taste of his he buys a house in Berkeley street for quality a little later on in the first vol- his friend, Miss Howard. That was all ume, when he has occasion to treat of very like the man of adventure, fixing the prince's exile in Switzerland, and his eye upon a throne, but enjoying speaks of an intrigue involving a cer- himself by the wav according to his tain peasant girl. "I could really be of none too royal tastes. Politically, as in some use to the prince in this pretty other ways, he lived from hand to rustic idyll of his," he says, "carry- mouth. The baron seems to have ing love letters between him and his prided himself on being an openfair one." For the exercise of such minded man and clear-eyed into the functions the baron was doubtless well bargain. He writes as one having no equipped, but this does not incline us illusions. Still, he professes admira-

Thierry, who was urging the prince to him to the reader as an historian of the Second Empire, we gladly admit "Later on." he replied. "Before writing his history, I must finish my work."
"Why begin the First Empire over again?" questioned the historian.
"My uncle was Casar," said the prince up a striking tale. From an old man who had known Isabey, the painter, he It is the sanguine adventurer to the obtained the following anecdote of the

"I am at your service, madam."
"Yes, but now, at once."
"The deuce! Are you in such a hurry as all that?" as all that?"
"It is not I who am in a hurry, but the guillotine. I am on the list of suspects. I shall certainly be condemned to-morrow. I have children. I want to leave them my portrait. Will you take it at once?"
Isabey accepted, and made a rapid sketch, one of his best. The unknown lady paid him, took the portrait and disappeared, never to be seen by him again, leaving the painter filled with indescribable emotion.

## DARKEST ENGLAND

and Its Denizens.

LONDON'S UNDERWORLD. By Thomas Holmes. Svo. pp. vii., 256. E. P. Dutton & Co.

cessity, ranging from the industrious mentally or physically defective, the spineless, the shiftless, the idlers and fancy. vagabonds, the vicious and criminal.

He pays special attention to the puzzle of the derelicts who come drifting downward from better social circles until they reach the bottom, content to stay there. He has known many of them well, and confesses that the fundamental cause of their failure has remained a mystery to him:

evolved sweatshop labor. And always aloofness and help along, each accordthe poor pay more for the necessaries ing to his opportunity. The rent must always be paidsignificance of this book in a review recommendations by the way. only by constant quotation:

the euphonious name given by intelligent juries to starvation, when inquests are held in the underworld. Herein is a mys-

The author sees the philosophy of In his long career as an illustrator

to the reader his personal share of reof the marvellous optimism, the courpossess, on the whole, very little dig- things. State and Church even aid them in handicapping themselves at early, reckless, improvident marriages. So says Mr. Holmes.

The cure? He knows of none, His him no royal way out. This he knows, however: that all the organized efforts now being made persist in dealing with the symptoms, while letting the causes the shelters established by the Salvation Army, on which such high hopes were built, as futile. No permanent or them, he asserts. The suggestions he offers at the end for the gradual amelthe mass will have to be dropped and things the engineers thought of." lesson for all civilization.

## A GOOD SHORT STORY.

It is stated by her publishers that in the current number of "The Century." It is one of the best short
stories we have read in a long time.

esty, to let a trestle count as a trestle, escapes begins immediately afterward. Christian theism, a view which may
no less than as a web of line; to sugstories we have read in a long time.

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esty, to let a trestle count as a trestle, escapes begins immediately afterward. Christian theism, a view which may
no less than as a web of line; to sugstories we have read in a long time. we go on merely to be amused. Questions of character, and of other high

"Year madam; what do you desire?"

### A NATIONAL PROBLEM A Many-Sided Survey of Thirty

Years. THE NEW IMMIGRATION. A Study of the Industrial and Social Life of South

the Industrial and Social Life of South-eastern Europeans in America. By Peter Roberts, Ph. D. Svo, pp. xxi, 385. The Macmillan Company. A generation has elapsed since our immigration shifted from Northwestern to Southeastern Europe. The change

brought with it many questions, many problems, many misgivings, which the older immigration had not raised, or at least had raised only to settle and solve them in a manner altogether reassuring to native America. It is different with this "new immigration." The questions, the problems, above all take rank apart as a document on the Mr. Holmes writes with the author- else the misgivings have persisted, and ity of exhaustive knowledge won by have been intensified as the stream lar vitality. The artist was really long service as court missionary in kept increasing in volume, but not in London and later as secretary of the quality. The process of assimilation, Howard Mission, whose work lies of Americanization, so facile and swift howard Mission, whose work are among discharged convicts. In this book, which is a nightmare of unfilmeding facts, he visits the slums of the capital of the world from top to bottom, by day and by night. He classifies ton, by day and by night. He classifies the firm of the case of Scotch and Welsh and Irish, of German and Scandinavian, has proved far more difficult, has been retarded more and more, the backward if not inferior newcomers being the case of Scotch and Welsh and Irish, of German and Scandinavian, has proved far more difficult, has been retarded more and more, the backward if not inferior newcomers being the case of Scotch and Welsh and Irish, of German and Scandinavian, has proved far more difficult, has been retarded more and more, the backward if not inferior newcomers being the case underlies the firmness and breadth of his drawings.

It is a pity that there was not provided for them some other textual accompaniment than the one which Mr. their inhabitants, voluntary and of ne- doubly handicapped by their ignorance Pennell offers us, some series of deof our tongue and our ways, their overand honest, who with heroic courage whelming lack of training, and by ecokeep up the struggle against starva- nomic conditions far more complicated that of one of the engineers. Mr. Pention, to the flotsam and jetsam that and difficult than those awaiting the cannot be helped, or will not; to the earlier comers in a country commercially and industrially still in its in-

The problem of this new immigration is more to the fore at this moment than ever before. The country demands a firm, wise, enlightened policy concerning its future management. The writer of the book here under discussion even goes so far as to assert that it is no goes so far as to assert that it is no at, or what to look at, 'till they have longer an American, but has become an guide book, courier, or tout to tell them tally blind. ... No! it is not drink, for generally they emphasizing the salient points, and it sober men. I will own my isno-sober men. I will own my isno-triends, now homeless save when are in prison, would be performing duties in settled and comfortable tion, which, he holds, needs chiefly Delicately nurtured women sink systematic direction and sympathetic slowly into this slough of despond, oc- treatment to make it a useful asset to casionally through their own initial the country. We need its strength, he fault, but oftenest through the loss of says in substance; we need it for those the bread-winner. It is the women, in- humbler forms of labor which the nadeed, who bear the heaviest burden of the will not perform. Therefore, it all, whether it be the wives of unskilled will be to our own interest to raise its laborers, contriving, helping, scraping, level, social and moral, educational as saying to keep the home together, or well as productive, to its maximum, the widows and daughters cast unpro- and one of the best means to bring tected and unprepared on the mercles about this result, he holds, is for the of the economic system that has native to lay aside his contemptuous

of life than do those above them. The A library of books has been written profits paid by slum real estate, as Mr. on the subject of the new immigration Holmes calculates them, are scanda- during the last ten years or so. The substance of what these studies conand in advance—that is an axiom tain will be found in Mr. Roberts's friend at Hong Kong, got wind of the on the other, is reflected in the opposground into the minds of the poor. So book-enough to give the average affair through the wife of an English ing standpoints of Naturalism and it must come, if necessary-and it American a good working conception of nearly always is necessary-out of the whole problem as it concerns him to which he appealed, refused to in- of nature as the prior, fundamental their expenditure for food, Clothes and the nation's welfare. The author come last. One can do justice to the offers no solution; he merely makes

## Pictures.

H PENNELL'S PICTURES OF PANAMA CANAL. Reproduc-of a series of lithographs made by him Januarypressions and notes by the artist. pp. 13, xxviii. Philadelphia: The J. Lippincott Company.

the "nomads," of those who give up, Mr. Pennell has never done anything who do not even try, who live on the better than these drawings, if, indeed, free soup and bread they can get by he has done work quite so good. The standing in line, who sleep "out" and only sketches of his which we recall as therefore are free from the burden of making anything like the same strong the weekly rent, who get their rags appeal are those which he etched and where they can and beg or steal in a drew with the pen for Mr. Howells's small way to secure a night's lodging papers of Italian travel years ago. The in some "doss house" in the inclement mass of drawings he has produced in the interim has included many spark-The book is a social indictment, but ling and even brilliant pieces, but it it is also a collection of individual cases has included also a great deal of what even better calculated to bring home Mr. Howard Walker, the architect, in speaking of Mr. Pennell recently, called sponsibility for collective socio-eco- "ragtime sketching." It was the charm nomic evils. And withal the author of the old Italian pictures that his makes us understand his admiration technical virtuosity was subordinated in them to the solid substance of his age, the endurance, the indefatigable material. His buildings were not so persistence of the industrious poor, es- many glittering "effects," but works of pecially of their wives and mothers. architecture, soundly portrayed. Now, The price they pay, the sacrifices they on the Isthmus of Panama, he has make, are wasted, for their children are | brought his best draftsmanship to bear forced to follow in their footsteps; only upon a subject that is in itself in the him lightly, on the other hand, as a that his portrait of the latter should a few emerge and mount to better grand style, and the result is an interesting and valuable performance.

It was a right instinct that led the the beginning of life by affording them artist to set down his impressions in French political developments and the has something to say, of course, about every facility for the concluding of terms of lithography rather than in those of pure black and white. The occasion was one for the cool statement of fact rather than for the dazzling exexperience and reflection have shown pression of mere picturesqueness. "I was after picturesqueness," says Mr. Pennell, but it is a testimony to the dominating force of the great spectacle | Foreign Office. Lord Salisbury per- primacy to the "realm of ends"; as these drawings the quality that the draftsman was "after" seems really to have been left to take care of itself. It the naturalness of truth. Nothing is forced. Nowhere is there any facioration of a hopeless state of affairs titious play of light and shade. Speakchiefly for Englishmen; it contains its less point of view of the engineers. pressions," but it would, perhaps, be juster to describe them as records.

been sent to press for its sixth large which this or that subject should be like to hear that so clever a novel as and made up his mind what to omit, this one is meeting with appreciation. Mr. Pennell's aim seems simply to have And, apropos, we call attention to the been to note the facts, to give great author's tale of "The White Pagoda," walls their proper strength and majin the current number of "The Cen- esty, to let a trestle count as a trestle,

when in the full tide of his imaginative \$50,000. powers, the subject which Mr. Pennell "the most pictorial as well as the most profound part of the cut." But Mr. Pennell gives us no Turneresque vision of the scene. He makes us feel, instead, the weight and grit of the rocky earth, and almost makes us hear the businesslike snorting and clanking of the locomotive and the steam shovel at work in the vast ditch. Photography has, of course, preserved and 's steadily preserving priceless records of the steps taken by the canal builders in their task, but Mr. Pennell's book will subject. It has, we may add, a peculstirred; he admired and intensely en-

scriptive and historical notes written by a well instructed hand, preferably nell's remarks only intermittently illuminate the subject, and they are often petulant and jejune. Alluding jargon so often used in metaphysical to the city of Panama, he says:

joyed all that he saw, and his emotion

has passed into his work. A delightful

If this city were in Spain, or if even decent description of it were in a If this city were in Spain, or if even a decent description of it were in a European guide book, the hordes of Americans who go to the canal would rave over it. As it is, not many of them (not being told) ever see it, though there are few towns in Europe with more character. But I regret to say my countrymen don't know what they are looking at or what to look at, 'till they have a.

## does not lack the note of human in- His Aspirations, Conspiracies, Dangers and Success.

UN YAT SEN AND THE AWAKEN-ING OF CHINA. By James Cantlle, M. A., M. B., F. R. C. S., Dean of the College of Medicine, Hong Kong (1889-1895), and C. Sheridan Jones, Illus-trated, 12mo., pp. 240. Fleming H. Revell Co.

The theory of the authors of this book. that Sun Yat Sen, the first (provisional) Man of Destiny, is certainly borne out by its account of his numerous and marvellous escapes from capture during his long career of conspiracy against Manchu rule. The most sensational of tion. his adventures was undoubtedly his home as a lunatic. Dr. Cantlie, his old the moral sciences, including history, servant of the legation. Scotland Yard, Idealism. The one regards the realm

the foreground the rude, practical spirit, and execution, or of assassination for of the whole gigantic enterprise, the sake of the prizes set upon his Turner might have painted with gusto, head, which at one time amounted to

This sketch of the reformer's life and work, which stops short of his a view, looking toward Culebra, at resignation of the provisional Presidency, is in outline only. The rest of the book is made up of a brief history of Manchu rule and the struggle for its overthrow, and of chapters on "Things Chinese," the fight against oplum, and the future of China. The authors are hearty admirers of the Chinese, and unqualified optimists concerning the future of their country and

## THE STUBBORN MUSE ophy.

THE PROBLEM OF FREEDOM. By George Herbert Palmer. 12mo, pp. ix. 211. The Houghton Mifflin Company.

BODY AND MIND. A History and a De fence of Animism. By William Mc fence of Animism. By William McDougall, M. B. With thirteen diagrams. 8vo. pp. xix, 383. The Macmillan Company. Professor Palmer is alert to the com-

plainings of the ungodly against the debate, and he is not disposed to dismiss the protest as the mere envious pouting of a native incapacity for high thinking. If, in her turn, divine philosophy has had to complain of suffering mány things at the hands of amateur interpreters, it must be granted that among her devotees have been sinners who have gone in for cultivating ob-Some one on the Canal ought to scurity as an art. Nothing is more Many were decent and good-hearted fellows; yet they were outcasts. Others were intelligent, clever and even industrious, quite capable of holding their own with respectable men, yet they were helpless. Others were fastidiously honest in some things, yet they were persistent rogues. Many of them were clear-headed in ninety-nine directions, but in the hundredth they were muddled, if not mentally billnd. Palmer considers lucidity to be not unfriendly to those worthy qualities of fulness of knowledge, candor of observation and severity of scientific spirit called for in any serious piece of work, and his sympathy goes with Bishop Berkeley's saying that one should "think with the learned and speak with the vulgar." The discussion of the problem of moral freedom in the present book is marked by the author's characteristic patience in expounding President of the Chinese Republic, is a the viewpoint from which he dissents, and his conclusions in favor of "the freedom of the will" are the more effective because of his fearless familiarity with the "determinist" conten-

> kidnapping by the Chinese Ambassador | The sharply contrasted aspects of the in London in 1896. He was kept cap- universe which lead us to speak of the tive in the embassy and only rescued at world of mechanism and the world of ent time, and of the attacks upon it the eleventh hour, when arrangements morals, the subject-matter of the natu- from the sides of metaphysics, epistehad been all but completed to send him ral sciences on the one hand and that of mology and the natural sciences, terfere, but he had better luck at the aspect of the world; the other gives the



A Romance of Billy-Goat Hill

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high romance.

think of God as being at once transcendent and immanent in his world.

As generally used, the word Animism stands for the primitive idea that all natural objects which seem to exert any power or influence are moved or animated by "spirits" or intelligent, purposive beings; but Mr. McDougall feels justified in applying the term to the refined doctrine historically continuous with the primitive notion-the doctrine, namely, of the soul as a unitary and individual being and of a nature different from that of the body. It takes temerity to hold a thesis upon which modern science and philosophy have turned their backs with constantly increasing decision. "Souls are out of fashion," a psychologist said not long ago when describing a tendency he himself deplored. Mr. McDougall would ascribe the feebleness of faith about the soul to a temporary triumph of materialism; and he is concerned lest under the spell of "scientific" mechanistic dogmas the belief in any form of life after the death of the body should continue rapidly to decline among all civilized peoples. Every vigorous nation seems to have possessed a belief in the persistence of human personality, and the loss of it has accompanied the decay of national vigor in many instances. The author's effort to have the soul taken seriously as a scientific hypothesis involves a brilliant review of the history of Animism from primitive ages to the pres-

### GOSSAMER WINGS A Book of Nature's Fragile Beauty.

MOTHS OF THE LIMBERLOST, With water-color and photographic illustra-tions from life. By Gene Stratton-Por-ter. 8vo, pp. xiv, 379. Doubleday, Page

Proclaiming herself a lover of Nature, not a naturalist, an amateur, not a scientist, Mrs. Porter yet offers us here a book that will prove of value to entomologists in the patient minuteness of its observations and the clarity with which their results are reported. As for her fellow nature lovers, they will delight in these pages, in their loving enthusiasms, their glow of admiration for the ways of life of these lepidoptera, which, in the struggle for existence, have found the road to beauty of coloring and to infinite, ever-

The Limberlost has been a world in little to the author since her childhood. It was as a child that she first entered its abundant realm of winged insects, to return to it with more set purpose via "love's meyny," to quote Ruskin's tenderly imaginative description of the world of birds:

changing grace of form and motion.

I never thought the birds could have a rival in my heart. But these fragile night wanderers, these moon-flowers of June's darkness, literally "thrust themselves upon me." When my cameras were placed before the home of a pair of birds, the bushes parted to admit light, and clinging to them I found a creature, often having the bird's sweep of wins, of color pale green with decorations of lavender and yellow, or running the gamut from palest tans to darkest browns, with markings of pink or dozens of other irresistible ings of pink or dozens of other irresistible combinations of colors, the feathered foil found a competitor that often out-dis-tanced them in my affections.

The Limberlost has been conquered. Its woods and lakes and swamps have been reclaimed and turned into fertile farms, but patches of it still remain. and in them Mrs. Porter still continues her studies. The vividness of color of her illustrations, their velvety richness, she explains, is due to their being copied from moths fresh from the cocoon, for, once exposed to light, they soon fade almost beyond recognition. Hence the striking difference between these plates and those of the average moth book, which are generally reproduced from mounted specimens.

It is only fair to author and reader to emphasize the fact that this is not merely still another nature book. It has a charm of its own, an enthusiasm that is contagious.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

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THE CUT-LOOKING TOWARD CULEBRA. (From an illustration in "Joseph Pennell's Pictures of the Panama Canal.")

revolutionist.

do their work unchecked. He considers presented by the canal works that in all emptorily demanded the release of the Kant called it, the realm of spiritual initiative. Having made in his "Natu-Sun Yat Sen was born in 1867 in a ralism and Agnosticism" an impressive remote village in the province of contribution on the spiritualistic side increasing results can be traced to pervades them, when it is there, with Kwang-tung, some thirty miles south of the perennial controversy, Dr. Ward of Hong Kong. His father was a now endeavors to ascertain what we Christian convert and the local agent can know or reasonably believe conof the London Missionary Society, cerning the constitution of the world, are practical and to the point. Collect- ing of the guard gate at Gatun, Mr. The boy was well taught in English interpreted throughout in terms of ively much can be done—the world is Pennell says: "I have never seen such by an English woman connected with mind. At the outset this world imawakening to its duty-but always a magnificent arrangement of line, light the mission, and at the age of eighteen mediately confronts us as an objective there will be a point where treatment in and mass, and yet those were the last became attached to the hospital of aggregate, in which we discern many the Anglo-American Mission in Can- minds in mutual interaction. If our the individual dealt with. And here can pay no higher compliment to his ton. Here he became interested in experience develops from this "pluralwill be found the minimum that is ir- drawing of this gate than to say that medicine and surgery, beginning his ist" view of things, we do not necesreducible. The book has been written it might have been done from the art-studies for a degree two years later at sarily rest content with the notion of the College of Medicine just established all existence being a multiverse. Some We have called these lithographs "im- in Hong Kong by Dr. Cantile. In 1892 overarching and unifying influence is he received his diploma, the first to be to be wished for, so that we may have conferred by the institution. Sun set- a universe rather than a fortuitous The selective faculty which belongs to tled in Macao, on Portuguese terri- concourse of unrelated forces. The Anne Douglas Sedgwick's "Tante" has the artist determined the angle from tory, attaching himself to the Chinese author knows that monistic idealism is private hospital there, but was for- ready to resolve our perplexity by subprinting. This is pleasant news. We studied, but, having taken his stand bidden to practise, as his degree was suming all things in an absolute mind, not a Portuguese one. His connection but he sees that in this view there is with the Young Chinese party dates risk of losing the world by pantheistic from this period. The story of his absorption. He prefers the theoretipropaganda, conspiracies, failures and cally and practically rational view of escapes begins immediately afterward. Christian theism, a view which may